

**Common Application/Registration Form Completed**

As directed by the Council in fall 1999, admissions directors and registrars have constructed common application and registration forms for all the public and independent institutions of Kentucky for students applying and registering at KYVU. Also students registering through KYVU all pay the same admissions fee. The forms can be viewed on the KYVU Web site.

**Inauguration of the KYVU Professional Training Division**

KYVU has developed a noncredit division directed by Dr. Randolph Hollingsworth whose mission is to provide online just-in-time training and professional certification for Kentuckians. The content for this training is developed by Kentucky institutions, national professional organizations, and commercial training enterprises. Except for content developed and delivered by Kentucky institutions, KYVU receives revenues from these partners to cover the cost of administration, registration, and database use.

The current offerings include six professional development programs (all of which will allow state employee students reimbursement):

- Public Safety Communications Training (911 dispatchers) from the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials
- Kentucky Firefighters Certificate, from the KCTCS and Kentucky Firefighters Association
- Certified Public Accounting Continuing Education courses for re-certification from Magellan University
- Paralegal and Legal Assistant Training courses from Paralegal and Legal Assistant Training Online
- Information Technology courses, such as Networks, Windows, MCSE certification, Lotus Notes from Magellan University and TechWizard
- Travel and Tourism Training from Education Systems

The following courses and partnerships are being negotiated:

- Management Skills (e.g., accounting, statistics, management, math, computers, business) from QUISIC.
- Acceptable Work Behaviors from the Department of Energy.
- OSHA Training/re-certification for Hazardous Waste Operations from Kelly Scientific Resources.
- AIDS/HIV and domestic violence courses across the health professions from the Institute for Continuing Education, Inc.

In addition, KYVU is working with:

- The Education Professional Standards Board, the Kentucky Department of Education, and KVHS to provide online professional development for teachers
- AIKCU to provide online self-paced studying for students studying for the PRAXIS teachers exam
- The Governor's Office for Technology, the Governmental Services Center, the Department for Adult Education and Literacy, the Governor's Personnel Cabinet, and Kentucky State University to determine a core curriculum for the professional development of all state employees

### **KYVU and Monterrey Technical Virtual University, Monterrey, Mexico**

KYVU is partnering with Monterrey Technical Virtual University in Mexico (Universidad Virtual del Sistema Tecnológico de Monterrey). It is fully accredited in the U.S. by SACS and is the largest privately run university in Latin America with 85,000 students and 30 campuses in Mexico offering undergraduate and graduate programs.

The partnership with Monterrey Tech will provide opportunities to Spanish-speaking citizens of Kentucky to study in their native language, for Kentuckians to attend school "abroad" from their own home, and to develop transfer agreements between Kentucky universities and colleges and Monterrey Tech; e.g., KCTCS AA online degree transfer to Monterrey or Monterrey undergraduate degrees transfer to Kentucky universities offering graduate degrees online. In addition, this international partnership with Mexico, one of the targeted countries of Governor Patton's trade initiative, will be highlighted at the Kentucky Latin America Conference being conducted by the Cabinet for Economic Development in January.

### **Fall 2000 Enrollment**

As described at the September Council meeting, the institutions have marked another significant increase in online enrollments for the fall 2000 semester.

### **Army Online University Initiative**

The Kentucky Virtual University institutions have been invited to partner with possible prime contractors who are responding to the Army Online University request for proposal (RFP). The U.S. Army is committing some \$600 million to provide every soldier a laptop, Internet service provider (ISP), and asynchronous degree programs. Several Fortune 500 companies are responding to the RFP and are seeking partnerships with universities. KYVU has been asked to partner with Science Applications International Corporation, Computer Sciences Corporation, IBM, and Arthur Anderson on behalf of Kentucky institutions who provide degree programs online. We have completed the documents required of these companies on behalf of the University of Louisville, the KCTCS, Murray State University, and Sullivan University for their degree programs, and submitted course information for all courses offered by all institutions through KYVU.

A precedent setting requirement of the eArmy initiative is that the prime contractors will submit a single tuition rate for all technical certificates, another for all AA, BA, and graduate programs.

One of the hopeful prime partners, Computer Science Corporation, has selected one of Kentucky's online courses as one of its four required demonstration courses to the Army: a biology course offered by Dr. Robert Wyatt of Western Kentucky University, selected for its exemplary use of the technology.

### **Virtual Football League**

KYVU is starting a program to increase community-building opportunities for online learners. While students have ample opportunities to get to know their classmates in individual courses, they do not have a chance to interact with students across classes and institutions. To that end, we are creating opportunities for them beyond their classrooms. The first was the establishment of a Virtual Football League; the KYVU team is the @vengers. KYVU has formed this fantasy league with seven other virtual universities around the U.S., and our "games" are reported on [www.virtualcollegesports.com](http://www.virtualcollegesports.com).

KYVU has received wide press for this small initiative, appearing in the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Courier-Journal, the Herald-Leader, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Atlanta Journal, and will soon be in Time Magazine. We're waiting for the call from Sports Illustrated.

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